

**CERTIFICATION NUMBER: C-2013-01**

## **FOREWORD**

The Water Environment Federation (WEF, “National Sponsor”) recognizes the need for structured training programs to maintain the high level of skill and competence demanded in the Wastewater Systems and Treatment industry. Registered apprenticeship is the most practical and sound training system available to meet that need, to develop individuals into skilled journeyworkers, and to ensure industry an adequate supply of skilled workers.

Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 29, outlines the requirements for registration of acceptable apprenticeship programs for Federal purposes, and sets forth labor standards that safeguard the welfare of apprentices. Such registration may be by the U. S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship, or by a State Apprenticeship Agency recognized by the Office of Apprenticeship as the appropriate body in that State for approval of local apprenticeship programs for Federal purposes. Title 29, CFR part 30 sets forth the requirements for equal employment opportunity in apprenticeship to which all registered apprenticeship programs must adhere.

The purpose of these National Guidelines for Apprenticeship Standards (National Guideline Standards) is to provide policy and guidance to local Program Sponsors (“Sponsor”) in developing these Standards for Apprenticeship for local approval and registration. These National Guideline Standards developed by the Sponsor are certified by the U. S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship as substantially conforming to the requirements of Title 29, CFR parts 29 and 30. State Apprenticeship Agencies recognized by the Office of Apprenticeship to register local programs, and/or local laws and regulations, may impose additional requirements that must be addressed in the local apprenticeship standards.

Local Standards of Apprenticeship must be developed and registered by each Sponsor that undertakes to carry out an apprenticeship training program. The local Standards of Apprenticeship will be the Sponsor’s written plan outlining all terms and conditions for the recruitment, selection, employment, training, and supervision of apprentices as subscribed by the Sponsor, and must meet all the requirements of the Registration Agency.

The establishment of local apprenticeship programs under these National Guideline Standards will provide the Sponsor with a skilled and versatile work force at each of its locations by providing apprentices the opportunity to become journeyworkers through an organized and properly supervised program of training, practical experience and related instruction.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN AND SELECTION PROCEDURES**

Equal employment opportunity is required of every registered apprenticeship program. Such requirements apply to the recruitment, selection, employment, and training of apprentices throughout their apprenticeship.

Those programs with five or more apprentices, or where there is a likelihood of five or more apprentices, must have a written Affirmative Action Plan and Selection Procedures that are approved by the Registration Agency as part of the Standards of Apprenticeship.

A sample Affirmative Action Plan and Selection Procedures are attached.

Representatives of the Registration Agency are available to assist the local Sponsor in developing its Standards of Apprenticeship, Affirmative Action Plan and Selection Procedures using the sample provided. Once developed, the Standards of Apprenticeship, as well as the Affirmative Action Plan and Selection Procedures, must be submitted to the Registration Agency for approval and registration. Company Affirmative Action Plans and Selection Procedures (hiring process) may be considered in lieu of utilizing the samples provided if they meet all of the requirements of Title 29, CFR part 30.

**OFFICIAL ADOPTION OF NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR  
APPRENTICESHIP STANDARDS:**

**The Water Environment Federation hereby officially adopts these National Guidelines for Apprenticeship Standards on this 24<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2012.**

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature**

**Jeffrey A. Eger, Executive Director**

**Water Environment Federation**

*Sponsor(s) may designate the appropriate person(s) to sign the Standards on their behalf.*